

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6860

Petitions of Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.)
(VELCO) and Green Mountain Power Corporation)
(GMP) for a certificate of public good, pursuant to)
30 V.S.A. Section 248, authorizing VELCO to)
construct the so-called Northwest Vermont)
Reliability Project, said project to include: (1))
upgrades at 12 existing VELCO and GMP)
substations located in Charlotte, Essex, Hartford,)
New Haven, North Ferrisburgh, Poultney, Shelburne,)
South Burlington, Vergennes, West Rutland,)
Williamstown, and Williston, Vermont; (2) the)
construction of a new 345 kV transmission line from)
West Rutland to New Haven; (3) the reconstruction)
of a portion of a 34.5 kV and 46 kV transmission line)
from New Haven to South Burlington; and (4) the)
reconductoring of a 115 kV transmission line from)
Williamstown to Barre, Vermont –)

Order entered: 5/11/2010

ORDER RE NEW HAVEN SUBSTATION SOUND MONITORING PLAN

On January 3, 2006, the Public Service Board ("Board") issued an Order approving construction of the New Haven substation by Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco, LLC (collectively "VELCO"). In the January 3 Order, the Board included the following conditions:

4. Within 30 days of the completion of construction of the New Haven substation, including all landscaping and aesthetic mitigation, and the complete removal of the existing New Haven substation, VELCO shall so inform the Board, and the Board will schedule a post-construction site visit. Based upon the site visit, the Board reserves the right to require additional aesthetic mitigation.

5. Within 30 days of the completion of construction of the New Haven substation, including all landscaping and aesthetic mitigation, and the complete removal of the existing New Haven substation, VELCO shall file a plan, to be

approved by the Board, for conducting a post-construction noise study at the New Haven substation.

On March 19, 2010, VELCO filed a letter stating that construction of the New Haven substation is complete. In the letter, VELCO states that it "understands the Board will schedule two consolidated site visits for the 115 kV and 345 kV line, respectively, upon a notice of completion for each line." In addition, VELCO attached a proposed post-construction sound monitoring plan for the newly constructed New Haven substation.

On May 3, 2010, the Forest Drive Residents filed a letter in response to VELCO's March 19 letter. The Forest Drive Residents contend that some of the aesthetic mitigation and facilities installed at, or in the vicinity of, the New Haven substation are inconsistent with the requirements imposed by the Board. In addition, the Forest Drive Residents request that VELCO provide the results of any environmental testing conducted at the decommissioned New Haven substation. Finally the Forest Drive Residents provide the following comments on the sound monitoring plan filed by VELCO: (1) that testing be conducted during peak loads, when all the transformers are energized and transformers and fans are under load; (2) ensure that the northern sound monitor be placed under the lines leaving the substation in an area where there are no natural low spots; and (3) the Forest Drive Residents note that VELCO's proposal states that VELCO will conduct measurements of T3 if the transformer is energized and requests clarification as to whether that transformer has been energized.

No other party filed comments regarding VELCO's March 19 letter.

After reviewing VELCO's proposed sound monitoring plan and the comments received, the Board approves the sound monitoring plan filed on March 19, 2010, with the following modifications and conditions:

1. Sound monitoring must be conducted during a time when VELCO reasonably expects that all of the transformers at the New Haven substation will be at peak loads.
2. VELCO must ensure that the northern sound monitor is placed under the lines existing north out of the substation, in an area where there are no natural low spots.¹

1. If there are reasons why relocating the monitor would be impractical, VELCO should file a full explanation along with a revised proposal that addresses the concerns expressed by the Forest Drive Residents regarding the

In addition, VELCO shall file any response to the May 3 letter from the Forest Drive Residents by May 28, 2010, regarding environmental testing at the decommissioned New Haven substation and the consistency of the as-installed aesthetic mitigation and facilities with Board requirements.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 11th day of May, 2010.

_____)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
)	
s/David C. Coen)	BOARD
)	
)	OF VERMONT
s/John D. Burke)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: May 11, 2010

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)

location of the monitor.